



— State of —  
**North Dakota**

*Office of the Governor*

**John Hoeven**  
*Governor*

**FLOOD DISASTER  
EXECUTIVE ORDER 2007-04**

**WHEREAS**, I, John Hoeven, Governor of the State of North Dakota, by the authority vested in me, do hereby proclaim a flood disaster for the Red River Valley Basin, based on severe thunderstorms, which have produced torrential rainfall and caused the Red River of the North in Wahpeton and Fargo to approach a major flood crest at the headwaters; and

**WHEREAS**, the extreme southern end of the Red River received up to seven inches of rain over the end of this past week, mainly May 31 through June 2; and

**WHEREAS**, inflows and smaller streams which flow into the Otter Tail, Bois de Sioux, and Wild Rice (ND) Rivers, all Red River tributaries, have increased rapidly and, in many cases, are pushing near their flood of record stream flows; and

**WHEREAS**, inflow into the Otter Tail River reservoir system has been near record levels with the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) reporting releases from Orwell Dam, in southeast Otter Tail County, will reach about 1,950 cubic feet per second (cfs), which is a new record release, surpassing the old record of 1,710 cfs; and

**WHEREAS**, major flooding is occurring along the Red River at Wahpeton with floodwaters cresting at 16 feet on Monday, June 4, six feet above flood stage. The combined flows from the Red River coming from the Wahpeton-Breckenridge area, and from the Wild Rice River through the Abercrombie area are expected to push the Red River to major flood levels in Fargo-Moorhead by Wednesday, June 6, reaching to a crest of 32 to 34 feet, above its 30-foot major flood stage by Friday, June 8; and


**WHEREAS**, these storm and flooding conditions have caused damages to transportation infrastructure, which is endangering agricultural interests, public sewage and water systems, private property, businesses, and homes. The damages to public properties present a serious threat to public health and safety. Actions are necessary to reduce the hardship, to address threats to public health and safety, and to initiate recovery and mitigation efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, as Governor, I order the total utilization of the North Dakota State Emergency Operations Plan, its procedures, attachments, and appendices to respond to the situation and assist local officials to develop a detailed damage assessment, alleviate hardships, and implement appropriate recovery actions and future mitigation measures to limit the hardships and impact of this disaster, and facilitate restoration of services and infrastructure; and

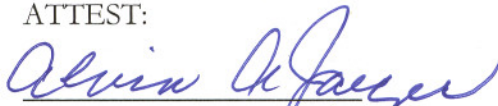
**NOW, THEREFORE,** This order is issued upon the following bases and for the following reasons:

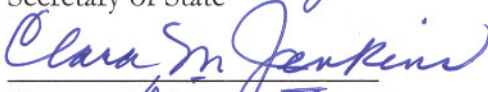
1. The Governor is vested with the executive authority pursuant to Article V, Section 1 of the North Dakota Constitution.
2. The governor is vested with statutory authority to issue executive orders, minimize or avert the effects of a disaster or emergency pursuant to Chapter 37-17.1 of the North Dakota Century Code.
3. A coordinated and effective effort of appropriate government departments is required to minimize the impact of emergencies and disasters in this state.

Executed at Bismarck, North Dakota, this 4th day of June, 2007.

  
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John Hoeven  
Governor

ATTEST:

  
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Alvin A. Jaeger  
Secretary of State

  
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Deputy 